The District Ca.. Control Programme (DCCP) component of the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) focuses on early detection and prevention of cancer in selected districts by providing training and necessary equipment as well as creating awareness among the people. Apart from this 20 Regional Cancer Centres recognized under NCCP provide early detection and treatment facilities for cancer. A health education and awareness drive was also undertaken under the Modified District Cancer Control Programme in four States of Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh covering about 1 million women. 14 institutions including 12 RCCs have initiated population based cancer control programme on pilot basis mainly for screening of cancers of cervix, breast and oral cavity. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has also initiated a project on screening for cancers of cervix, breast and oral cavity in three districts of Himachal Pradesh which is expected to cover a population of about 15 lakhs.

On the occasion of National Cancer Awareness Day (7th November, 2001) a postage stamp depicting self breast examination (A cost effective technique of detecting breast cancer) was brought out. In addition for creating awareness on cancer and for spreading anti-tobacco messages, the Government is making use of Electronic and Print Media.

Typhoid detection kit

4518. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA:

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of typhoid cases in India every year;

(b) whether it is a fact that typhoid detection kit has been developed by the scientists at the Defence Research and Development Establishment in Gwalior which can detect typhoid from a person's blood sample instantly without going into widal test;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the kit developed by DRDE has been tested by AIIMS; and

(e) if so, the opinion of the experts in AIIMS in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) About 5 lakh typhoid cases are reported in India every year.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The testing kit is based on DNA technology for rapid detection of typhoid infection from patient's serum.

(d) and (e) The kit developed by Defence Research Development Establishment, Gwalior has been evaluated in AIIMS in limited samples. The results are satisfactory. To sort out a few unanswered question, a further study for one year starting June, 2003 is being taken up.

Pesticides in mineral water

4519. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA :
SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry released a statement right after pesticides were found in mineral water that the water was according to the standards set by BIS;

(b) if so, whether the standards set by BIS mention that harmful pesticides should be present in the water; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) to (c) In response to a calling attention motion in Lok Sabha on 20-2-2003, a statement was made by Hon'ble H.F.M. in the Lok Sabha.

Requirement of pesticide residues prescribed under PFA Rules, 1945 and by BIS in their standards in Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water should be "below detectable limits", when tested in accordance with the specific methods as prescribed by BIS in their inspection and testing scheme, which can detect upto 0.01 mg. of pesticides per litre of water. The Ministry of Health, in consultation with BIS, is considering the revision of these standards.

Interference of DG in drug control matters

4520. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN :
SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: